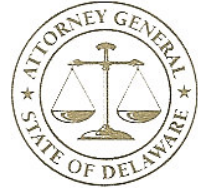


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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



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PLEASE REPLY TO:

March 13, 2006

[New Castle County-Civil Division]

The Honorable Sue L. Robinson
United States District Court
District of Delaware
J. Caleb Boggs Federal Building
844 N. King Street
Wilmington, DE 19801

Re: *West, et al. v. Redman, et al.*,
D. Del., C.A. No. 78-14-SLR

Dear Chief Judge Robinson:

On February 14, 2006, the Defendants in the above-captioned matter filed the Defendants' Motion For Relief From Consent Decree (the "Motion for Relief") (D.I. 253). In the Motion for Relief the Defendants requested, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3626(b), that the Court grant relief from the Consent Order entered into by the Parties and made an Order of this Court on October 4, 1982.

As I am sure the Court is aware, section 3626(e)(1) requires that a court promptly rule on a motion to terminate prospective relief. Moreover, pursuant to § 3626(e)(2)(A)(i), "Any motion to ... terminate prospective relief made under subsection (b) shall operate as a stay during the period beginning on the 30th day after such motion is filed ... and ending on the date the court enters a final order ruling on the motion." Therefore, **an automatic stay will take effect in this case on March 16, 2006**, unless the Court enters a final order on the Motion for Relief prior to that date.

Chief Judge Robinson

March 13, 2006

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I thank you for your time and attention to this matter and look forward to the Court's decision on the Motion for Relief.

Sincerely,

/s/ Erika Y. Tross

Erika Y. Tross
Deputy Attorney General

cc: Douglas A. Shachtman, Esq.
Salih Muhammad Al-Shabazz
Hassan Umar Sharif